

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

The Dumont Dunes Grounds Operation Project funds work activities for onsite visitor services along with the normal operations, maintenance and law enforcement actions required to sustain OHV recreation opportunities. Agency Maintenance Workers and Park Rangers work to clean restrooms and maintain facilities such as roads, signs, kiosks, fences and vehicle barriers. Park Rangers and Visitor Services staff work together to provide seamless visitor services including directions, emergency services and visitor contacts for voluntary compliance with the rules and regulations. Extra staffing is provided over holiday weekends and during special events to handle peak crowds. Visitor services field work is overseen and coordinated through the activities of dispatchers providing their services from the Inter-Agency Dispatch Center.

This project funds work by our Volunteer Coordinator and staff Recreation Planners to coordinate visitor services, administer volunteer program, manage special projects & events, plus oversee cleanups & improvements. Project management addresses staff supervision and long-term activities & coordination among the BLM Barstow Field Office and our stakeholders. Activities include project coordination, scheduling, monitoring partner activities, addressing interagency and environmental issues and similar activities. Additional emphasis now goes to work by Wildlife Biologist and Soil Specialist to monitor soils and update both our soil and HMP plans.

More work activities in this project include maintenance of protective barriers, 3.5 miles of improved access road, low water crossing, entry station structures (fee machines, trailer pads & trailers, traffic control, signs), 5 kiosks, command post structures (visitor center, equipment sheds, heliport, fencing, lighting, shade ramada, trailer pads & trailers) 15 vault toilets and hundreds of various types & size signs. Project equipment and vehicles used for Dumont are stored and maintained in Barstow. Visitor contacts focus on explaining and seeking voluntary compliance for all California OHV and resource protection laws.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

Dumont Dunes has been a popular off-highway vehicle recreation area since the early 1960's. The area was designated as an open area in the 1973 Interim Critical Management Program. This designation was continued when the Dumont Dunes OHV Recreation Area was formally designated for motorized recreation in the 1980 California Desert District Management Plan. Many years later and after extensive public input the Environmental Assessment and Management Plans for Dumont Dunes Off-Highway Vehicle Area were approved, in June 1990.

This project is intended to continue providing and managing motorized recreation opportunities at Dumont Dunes. This Project provides the visitor services and facility maintenance needed to sustain OHV recreation on public land. Many of these facilities were built with monies from previous green sticker grants. Visitor contact and support services are provided by staff at the visitor center and through routine patrols of the recreation area. This Project provides basic visitor services for people staging, camping and riding OHVs here today and tomorrow.

Additional Project work takes care of infrastructure built to manage, contain and support OHV recreation. Maintain protective fencing for sensitive natural and cultural resources while helping prevent trespass into adjacent closed areas. Maintaining the access road network facilitates visitor and emergency vehicle travel and distribution throughout the recreation area. Maintaining the signs, restrooms and protective fencing sustains a clean healthy setting. And behind the scenes more work activities address the management and protection of sensitive desert resources. Additional work for soil and HMP plans to address soil & special status species; permits are issued and NEPA documents prepared for a steady stream of special events.

C. Size of the Project

The recreation area contains about 10,000 acres designated for intensive OHV recreation use.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

Dumont Dunes are located in the northeast corner of San Bernardino County, deep in the Mojave Desert. The primary riding opportunity is in sand. There are sand flats, little sand hills, big sand hills, gently slopes, steep slopes, bowls, razorbacks, and miles of sand. Cross-country vehicle travel is permitted within the boundaries. This includes the sandfield and little dune system known as ripple dunes, near Highway 127, and a central star dune system, known as Dumont Dunes, located further to the east. All types of off-highway vehicles are allowed to ride here, including sandrails, dunebuggies, ATVs, jeeps, 4 x 4s, side by sides and motorcycles. Riding is limited to three seasons because of intense summer heat. An entry fee is charged. There are 15 vault toilets, a campground host and regular patrols. Visitors may camp throughout the area.

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

- (a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
3. **Project-Specific Maps**
Attachments: [Dumont Dunes OHV Area Project Map](#)
4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: BLM - Barstow Field Office
Application: Dumont Dunes OHV Ground Operations

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	BLM - Barstow Field Office		
PROJECT TITLE :	Dumont Dunes OHV Ground Operations	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The Dumont Dunes Grounds Operation Project funds work activities for onsite visitor services along with the normal operations, maintenance and law enforcement actions required to sustain OHV recreation opportunities. Agency Maintenance Workers and Park Rangers work to clean restrooms and maintain facilities such as roads, signs, kiosks, fences and vehicle barriers. Park Rangers and Visitor Services staff work together to provide seamless visitor services including directions, emergency services and visitor contacts for voluntary compliance with the rules and regulations. Extra staffing is provided over holiday weekends and during special events to handle peak crowds. Visitor services field work is overseen and coordinated through the activities of dispatchers providing their services from the Inter-Agency Dispatch Center.</p> <p>This project funds work by our Volunteer Coordinator and staff Recreation Planners to coordinate visitor services, administer volunteer program, manage special projects & events, plus oversee cleanups & improvements. Project management addresses staff supervision and long-term activities & coordination among the BLM Barstow Field Office and our stakeholders. Activities include project coordination, scheduling, monitoring partner activities, addressing interagency and environmental issues and similar activities. Additional emphasis now goes to work by Wildlife Biologist and Soil Specialist to monitor soils and update both our soil and HMP plans.</p> <p>More work activities in this project include maintenance of protective barriers, 3.5 miles of improved access road, low water crossing, entry station structures (fee machines, trailer pads & trailers, traffic control, signs), 5 kiosks, command post structures (visitor center, equipment sheds, heliport, fencing, lighting, shade ramada, trailer pads & trailers) 15 vault toilets and hundreds of various types & size signs. Project equipment and vehicles used for Dumont are stored and maintained in Barstow. Visitor contacts focus on explaining and seeking voluntary compliance for all California OHV and resource protection laws.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-Park Ranger Notes : Equivalent 2 full time Park Rangers, non-LE.	4080.000	28.000	HRS	57,120.00	57,120.00	114,240.00
	Other-Recreation Planner	520.000	53.000	HRS	13,780.00	13,780.00	27,560.00
	Maintenance Worker Notes : General project maintenance spread out over year.	1040.000	38.000	HRS	19,760.00	19,760.00	39,520.00

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6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Volunteer Maintenance Worker	1626.000	38.000	HRS	0.00	61,788.00	61,788.00
	Other-Clean up Volunteer Notes : Seasonal work done by campground hosts, visitor services, light maintenance & bathroom cleaning.	2040.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	40,800.00	40,800.00
	Seasonal Maintenance Worker Notes : Additional scheduled weekend work during busy season.	900.000	38.000	HRS	0.00	34,200.00	34,200.00
	Other-Seasonal Visitor Services	125.000	130.000	HRS	0.00	16,250.00	16,250.00
	Other-Volunteer Coordinator	520.000	48.000	HRS	12,480.00	12,480.00	24,960.00
	Other-Wildlife Biologist	180.000	53.000	HRS	4,770.00	4,770.00	9,540.00
	Other-Soil Specialist	180.000	53.000	HRS	4,770.00	4,770.00	9,540.00
	Other-Dispatcher	500.000	38.000	HRS	9,500.00	9,500.00	19,000.00
	Total for Staff				122,180.00	275,218.00	397,398.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Vault toilet pumping	32.000	350.000	EA	0.00	11,200.00	11,200.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Flexible fiberglass signs	200.000	24.000	EA	0.00	4,800.00	4,800.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Pickup truck Notes : Routine project vehicle use by Park Rangers and BLM staff.	240.000	40.000	DAY	0.00	9,600.00	9,600.00
	Other-Seasonal pickup truck	125.000	40.000	EA	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
	Other-skip loader	35.000	430.000	DAY	0.00	15,050.00	15,050.00
	Water Truck	2.500	4800.000	MOS	0.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				0.00	41,650.00	41,650.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
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6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-Management Oversight	200.000	65.000	HRS	0.00	13,000.00	13,000.00
	Administrative Costs-Budget/Time Keeper	675.000	40.000	HRS	0.00	27,000.00	27,000.00
	Total for Administrative Costs				0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00
Total Program Expenses					122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: BLM - Barstow Field Office
 Application: Dumont Dunes OHV Ground Operations

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	122,180.00	275,218.00	397,398.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	11,200.00	11,200.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	4,800.00	4,800.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	41,650.00	41,650.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		122,180.00	372,868.00	495,048.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

This project would have no impact on wetlands or navigable water because there are none in the project area. This project could cause impacts to Mojave Fringe-toed Lizards. Ground disturbing activities are subject to review on a case-by-case basis to avoid and minimize impacts to fringe-toed lizards. Also, this species is subject to management under the HMP - in particular, the HMP calls for focused studies to assess population dynamics and the relation to OHV recreation at Dumont Dunes. No other sensitive habitat or species would be impacted by this project

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

This is a ground operations project to fund continued routine maintenance and operation of existing facilities and services. We determined the potential impacts from these routine activities are nominal and therefore determined this project qualifies for a categorical exclusion. The cumulative impact assessment, p. 13, in the environmental assessment for the Dumont Dunes Management Plan, supports this conclusion because no harmful cumulative impacts are identified for routine operations and maintenance activities.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

There is a very low possibility the proposed activities will have a significant effect on slopes or soils because our routine maintenance and operations do not involve work on steep slopes or highly erosive soils. The facilities at Dumont Dunes are located to avoid problems such as this. Planned work activities in this project include measuring and monitoring soils within the recreation area to monitor, update and ensure compliance with our soils management plan.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

There is no potential for damage to scenic resources within the viewshed of a state scenic highway because there are no scenic highways in the vicinity of Dumont Dunes.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

- Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

There is no potential for this project to cause indirect significant impacts because all the activities in this project are minor with no or nominal surface disturbances. The work consists of routine on-going maintenance and operations of existing facilities and services inside the OHV recreation area. Most likely, continued maintenance and operations in this project will result in an attractive setting that will continue to draw OHV riders to this area thereby, avoiding conditions that would drive user groups to go elsewhere or cause off-site impacts.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[Dumont Categorical Exclusion](#)

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☒ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☐ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 7

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

b. The dunes are surrounded by land with sensitive desert resources, including a river with 8,000 years history. A national historic trail comes down the river past the dunes. The oldest standing building in San Bernardino County is in the adjacent Salt Creek ACEC.

c. There are no threatened or endangered species in the project area. There are a few special status species in the area, with the greatest potential for impact caused by riders going outside the boundaries.

d. This project provides visitor services and facility maintenance to minimize the potential for trespass on adjoining closed lands. There are several protective barriers and numerous boundary signs delineating the boundaries. This problem is also addressed in Dumont restoration grants.

e. This is a remote area with minimal staffing and campground host to maintain facilities. If they are not well maintained there is a greater risk for theft and vandalism.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 13

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☒ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☒ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

- a. Maintain 7 mile entry road; grading, dust control and compaction. Road provides all weather access for primary vehicles with OHVs; campers, motor-homes and trucks towing trailers. Entry fee monies provide minimal road maintenance, project completes regular maintenance.
- b. No need for new erosion control features. Project includes maintaining and repairing access road low level water crossing. After high flow events road surface needs cleaning and traffic control fence needs repair.
- c. Project includes replacement of traffic control signs; stop, speed limits, riding restrictions, directions, boundary and entry station; plus new kiosks and signs explaining rules and regulations; info panels for vault toilets, with map, basic rules, safety and brochure dispenser.
- d. Visitors bring all types OHVs; sandrails, ATVs, RUVs, SUVs, jeeps, motorcycles. Remote controlled toys, geo-caching, photography, hiking, exploring riverbed, touring groups & campers.
- e. Dunes provide every type riding experience.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
- ☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
- ☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

a. This project was presented in public meetings with the OHV Leadership Team and the Wilderness Leaders Meeting, sponsored by California Wilderness Coalition at the BLM CDD Office. These meetings were held to gather public input used for developing our grant projects.

c. This project was developed in coordination with the oversight provided at Dumont Dunes by the Barstow Dumont Subcommittee. This group is similar to the Friends of El Mirage and is composed of representatives from the various groups with an interest in the dunes. They volunteer their time to help the Bureau managed public recreation opportunities at the dunes.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 2

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 4 or more (4 points)
- ☒ 2 to 3 (2 points)
- ☐ 1 (1 point)
- ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

California Conservation Corp
Amargosa Conservancy

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 6

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
- ☐ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
- ☒ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
- ☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
- ☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)

☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

- a. This project adds signs, repairs, strengthens perimeter fencing built to protect sensitive desert resources on adjoining public lands in the Salt Creek ACEC, closed to motorized travel
- b. This project protects water quality in the adjacent Amargosa River. Maintain access road low water crossing, kiosk, fences and barriers to stop OHV riding in and along the river, visitor contact patrols, volunteer route signing projects, cleanups, and barriers.
- d. Activities to prevent special status species impacts include outreach, webpages, signs, kiosks, interpretation, law enforcement patrols and protective fencing. Field inventories to monitor.
- e. This project maintains signs, field patrols, fences and alternative roads to protect the adjacent Amargosa River
- f. There are twenty vault toilets within the recreation area for public use.
- g. Sensitive cultural sites are protected by fences and barriers adjacent to the OHV Recreation area. Project includes fence maintenance, Ranger patrols and monitoring.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing 5

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☒ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☒ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point) [Recycled asphalt]

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 4

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Yes we apply sustainable technologies beginning with the use of bolt together facilities that are easily repaired, dismantled and re-cycled. Facility development is guided by a minimalist approach, where we build support facilities for long-term management. Visitor services are provided on-site by a series of toybox style trailers towed out on major weekends and special events. Staff car pool and lodge at local facilities. The entry station and command post rely on solar power with generators providing peak energy. We have landscaped the place with native sand dunes and rock, using no water for irrigation.

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Camping ☐ Birding

☒ Hiking

☐ Equestrian trails

☐ Fishing

☐ Rock Climbing

☒ Other (Specify) [photography]